FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 AUGUST 1983

PLO Affairs

Fatah dissidents and forces loyal to PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat continued to exchange artillery fire in the central Al-Biqa' area, Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radios reported. "Fierce"artillery clashes were reported in the Ba'labakk area by Radio Monte Carlo.

Dissident forces are using Syrian protection to strengthen their positions in the Al-Biqa', Baghdad Voice of PLO radio stated. The Fatah loyalists are exercising "immense self-restraint" to avoid a clash with Syrian forces still besieging loyalist positions, the radio claimed. Despite the fierce attacks, the loyalist forces have the situation "under control." The radio also questioned Syrian motives in confiscating PLO weapons, besieging PLO supply depots in the Al-Biqa', and strongly supporting "anti-Palestinian" elements. It asked why the Syrians decided to prohibit fedayeen operations despite their declared readiness to coordinate such operations with the PLO. These "contradictions and empty claims" are a cover for the "hideous scheme of liquidation" against the PLO, the radio maintained.

In a statement cited by SANA, the PFLP-General Command official spokesman denied any Syrian or Libyan interference in the Fatah conflict and stressed that the differences cannot be solved by "haphazardly accusing" Arab states.

PNC Chairman Khalid al-Fahum urged PLO leaders to avoid statements that might damage relations with Syria, Radio Monte Carlo stated.

At a press conference in Moscow, PLO representative Rami ash-Sha'ir asserted that the differences between Syria and the PLO could be resolved "with Moscow's help," according to AFP.

Meanwhile, Fathi 'Arafat, Palestinian Red Crescent leader and brother of Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in Moscow where he is expected to hold talks on PLO-Syrian differences, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Lebanon

A handgrenade thrown at a Lebanese Army patrol in Beirut did not injure anyone, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. In southern Lebanon, the IDF cordoned off the Phalangist barracks near Sidon, according to Beirut radio. Citizens protesting the action were turned back. Phalangist forces cited by the Voice of Lebanon denied that limited agreements have been reached on the situation in the Ash-Shuf Mountains or that they are reducing their military presence in the area.

Meanwhile, U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane met with Foreign Minister Elie Salim, Beirut radio noted. Later, an "official source" cited by the radio called the talks "good" and denied that McFarlane had made any attempt to persuade Lebanon to accept partial withdrawals.

In a speech to graduating servicemen on the occasion of Army Day broadcast by Beirut radio, President Amin al-Jumayyil asserted that Lebanon "cannot know real security" unless the Army is strengthened. If the Army is incapable of performing its tasks and assuming its responsibilities, Lebanon will still "need to seek the help of friendly armies," he maintained.

Syria

Syria will keep its forces in Lebanon unless Israel "completely, comprehensively, and unconditionally" withdraws and Lebanon abrogates the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, Culture Minister Najah al-'Attar declared in a *Tishrin* interview reported by Radio Monte Carlo.

Saudi Arabia

Jordanian King Husayn left the Kingdom after talks with King Fahd, SPA reported. According to QNA, the talks dealt with the economic and political effects of Israeli actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and the need to continue the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue. The two monarchs also discussed the need for strong, unanimous Arab resolutions.

Meanwhile, King Fahd met with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, who conveyed a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn, Riyadh radio noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces "destroyed" another Iranian offensive in the central sector and subsequently launched a counterattack led by armored and commando units, an Iraqi commander announced in a statement reported by INA. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA said over 1,200 Iranians were killed during the "abortive" enemy offensive. Meanwhile, Iraqi planes attacked Iranian targets in the central and northern sectors, according to a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio.

An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio said fierce clashes were continuing in the central sector where Iranian forces had surrounded Iraqi troops still resisting on some of the heights. The communique did not mention the offensive referred to by Iraqi sources.

Iran

Internal Developments — The private sector of the economy should be given incentives to increase output because experience shows that,if production is left entirely to the state or cooperative sector, "active and expert forces" will have no incentive to use their resources and abilities and the economy will not expand, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri told economic officials in remarks reported by Tehran radio.

Meanwhile, President 'Ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi accepted the resignations of the commerce and labor ministers, the radio noted. The clandestine Radio Iran linked the "sacking" of the two ministers with the start of a purge of the "hojjatiyeh" faction by leftist "imamis" and clergymen sympathetic to communist policies. A purge of provincial officials is likely to follow the dismissal of the two ministers, who had opposed the prime minister's plans to nationalize foreign trade and impose further state control over the economy, the radio asserted. Despite its campaign against the Tudeh Party, the government intends to maintain "Tudeh'i" policies, the radio contended.

Pilgrimage — Iran has decided to send all its pilgrims — more than 95,000 people — on the pilgrimage to Mecca despite "obstructions" created by Saudi Arabia, pilgrims supervisor Musavi Kho'ini and Islamic Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami announced in remarks reported by Tehran radio after meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. The Saudi obstacles will not deter the pilgrims from visiting Mecca, even if the Iranians are obliged to stay in the Holy Mosque, in other mosques, or in tents, the officials declared.

Libya-Chad

Chadian Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine viewed France's promise to deliver antiaircraft weapons to Chad as "very encouraging," AFP reported. The French announcement followed a Chadian official report of another Libyan air attack on Faya-Largeau, according to AFP. Meanwhile, the Sudanese foreign minister appealed to France and the United States to provide immediate aid to Chad against the "wild and flagrant" Libyan air attack, SUNA reported.

In a statement carried by JANA, the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison denied accusations of Libyan interference in the battles around Faya-Largeau and called on the U.S. Administration to withdraw "this cheap accusation." Asserting that the transfer of the Chadian conflict northward to Faya-Largeau is a "dangerous sign" threatening Libya's territorial security, the statement said Libya must "closely follow" the current fighting, not because of any desire to intervene, but in order to protect Libyan soil against aggression, especially in view of Chadian "so-called territorial claims in the area of Aozou, which is an integral part of Libyan territory." In another development, Libya called on the OAU chairman to cooperate with it to find a peaceful solution to the civil war in Chad and urged the OAU to use its influence to prevent foreign interference in the country, JANA reported.

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Reportage on South Asian Ministers Conference

BK011637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The foreign ministers of seven South Asian countries, who met in New Delhi today, adopted a declaration on regional cooperation. The declaration is to be signed tomorrow morning and with that the program of cooperation will have been launched. A joint communique will also be issued after the signing ceremony.

Apart from India, the countries represented at the meeting were Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and Maldives.

The conference, which was inaugurated this morning by the prime minister, has completed its work. It was presided over by the minister for external affairs, Mr Narasimha Rao. His name was proposed by Nepal and seconded by Pakistan.

In her address, Mrs Gandhi called upon South Asian countries to forge greater unity to withstand outside pressure and maintain stability in the region.

Emphasizing that confrontation is dangerous and unprofitable, Mrs Gandhi said the threat of nuclear war must be averted. Its consequences are too horrendous to contemplate.

Mrs Gandhi said something should be done to overcome the economic crisis facing the world. At the recently concluded UNCTAD session in Belgrade, some concrete suggestions were made for restructuring the international economic order and start the North-South dialogue. Mrs Gandhi said the opportunity was allowed to slip by. She said the progress in the direction of subregional and regional cooperation in the countries in South Asia had been rather slow.

In his opening statement, Mr Narasimha Rao said we are indebted to the late President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh for initiating the process for regional cooperation. The goals we have set touched the very core of collective self-reliance and seek to remove poverty, hunger, and disease.

The Pakistan foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, said no other region needs harmonious and cooperative relations more than South Asia. Mr Yaqub Khan endorsed the proposal for a summit of the seven countries at an appropriate time.

The Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Shamsud Doha, stressed the need to make explicit the formal establishment of the South Asia region cooperation organization.

The Sri Lanka foreign minister, Mr Hameed, described the efforts of the conference as the presentation of a collective regional image of South Asia on the political plain.

The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Padma Bahadur Khatri, said the outcome of the meeting will depend much on our political will.

The Bhutanese foreign minister, Mr Lyonpo Dawa Tsering and the Maldives foreign minister, Mr Jameel, expressed the view that regional cooperation can contribute in improving the quality of life in our region.

Pakistani Minister's Address

BK011744 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The first South Asian foreign ministers conference, which began in New Delhi today, adopted a declaration on regional cooperation. The declaration is to be signed tomorrow morning and with that the program of cooperation will have been launched. A joint communique is to be issued after the signing ceremony. Pakistan is being represented at the conference by the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan.

Addressing the plenary session of the 2-day conference, he spoke of the pressing needs for harnessing the resources and energies for the transformation of South Asian societies in a climate of peace and cooperation. He said, through a sensitive appreciation of one another's priorities and preferences, the countries of the region could devise appropriate means for seeking accommodation and for reconciling their competing demands. He found a community of interests that brought the seven countries together.

He said the experts of the seven countries studied the scope of cooperation in selected areas and prepared a program of action which is now being integrated into a package that will give meaning and substance to cooperation in this region. He paid tributes for their wisdom and farsightedness. He said with this wisdom and with increasing cooperation in concrete fields the countries of the region would be able to consolidate peaceful and good neighborly relations among them.

As far as Pakistan was concerned, he said he had brought a sincere and considered commitment to the cause of regional cooperation in South Asia. This commitment, he added, had been proclaimed by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in his speeches at home and abroad. This stems not from sentimentality or expediency, but from a pragmatic appreciation of the powerful potential inherent in the idea of cooperation as an effective means for helping one and another and for achieving the higher objective of collective self-reliance.

The conference, inaugurated by the Indian prime minsiter, Mrs Indira Gandhi, is being attended by Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Maldives besides India.

The seven South Asian countries have identified nine areas for cooperation. After consolidating cooperation in these fields, additional steps will be taken to better the quality of life of the people of this region. This was stated by the Pakistan foreign secretary, Niaz A. Naik, while speaking in a program telecast in New Delhi on the eve of the first ministrial meeting of the South Asian nations. He said Pakistan Government prefers a step by step approach to such a cooperation.

Signing of Cooperation Declaration

BK020924 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Seven South Asian countries have formally launched their historic program of regional cooperation with the signing of a declaration in New Delhi this morning. The declaration was signed by their foreign ministers who discussed and finalized the draft yesterday. It sets out the objectives and principles of regional cooperation and outlines the institutional and financial arrangements.

Foreign ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Pakistan and Maldives signed the declaration this morning. The foreign minister of Sri Lanka had already signed it yesterday before his departure for Colombo. The objectives of South Asian regional cooperation are to promote the wellfare of their people and to accelerate their economic, social, and cultural growth. A technical committee will oversee the implementation, coordination, and monitoring of programs in each area of cooperation.

A standing committee at the level of foreign secretary is to be established for monitoring programs, determining priorities, identifying news areas of cooperation, and mobilizing regional and external resources.

A joint communique issued at the end of the conference today says the foreign ministers agreed to meet once a year to review the progress of regional cooperation. They will also recommend to their heads of state or government that they meet at their level. The date of the summit is to be finalized at the next meeting of the foreign ministers.

In his concluding remarks, the external affairs minister, Narasimha Rao, said thorough preparations would be necessary for a summit level meet. He said the foreign ministers can be truly proud of their accomplishment and he was confident that the objectives embodied in the declaration would lead to the prosperity of the region.

Keshtmand, Razmjo Attend Kabul Party Meeting 31 Jul
LD011400 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 JUL 83

[Excerpts] A session of party activists from the Kabul party organization was held today in the Salam Khana Hall of the Revolutionary Council to assess and evaluate the situation in Kabul and the pressing tasks of the party organization and state administration of Kabul in light of the resolutions from the 12th PDPA Central Committee Plenum.

The session was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers. The session was also attended by Zohur Razmjo, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary of the Kabul Party Committee; (Wasi Kargar), member of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary of the primary organization of the technical services of the Ministry of Mines and Industries; members of the Kabul Party Committee; members of ward party committees; secretaries of primary organizations; heads of government departments and directors of schools.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at the beginning of the session Zohur Razmjo read the report of the Kabul Party Committee Executive Bureau on the situation in Kabul and on the pressing tasks of the party committee and organs of state administration.

The report says, in part: The improvement of the economic situation in Kabul, the timely completion of construction projects, the improvement in providing city services, the completion of the [word indistinct] output in [words indistinct]. The report adds that party primary organizations have not yet transformed themselves into hot trenches of struggle against all diseases and deviations. Healthy and open criticisms are still not considered to be principles in party committees and primary organizations. Regrettably, criticisms are usually made in the form of accusations in private meetings of comrades.

After the presentation of the basic report, the secretary of the technical services of the Ministry of Mines and Industries, the commandant of city sarandoy, the secretary of the party's seventh ward, the chief of staff of I Army Corps, the head of the Malayay lycee, the head of the fourth ward of Kabul municipality, and the head of the cooperatives unions of Kabul presented their views on the main report. They expressed their firm resolution against any signs of factionalism, carelessness, idleness, lack of confidence and for the implementation of the resolutions of the 12th PDPA Central Committee Plenum.

Party Delegation Returns From Cuba 1 August
LD011657 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Kabul, 01 Aug, (BAKHTAR) — Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, returned home today after heading a high-ranking DRA party delegation to Havana at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and of the Cuban Government to attend the 30th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and Niaz Mohammad Momand and Mir Saheb Karwal, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee.

During this visit, Nur Ahmad Nur presented a message from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, on the occasion of this anniversary to Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party and president of the State Council, and had discussions with him on topics of interests in a friendly atmosphere.

The Afghan delegation also visited Santiago de Cuba and Moncada Barracks and other places related to the Cuban revolution.

Nur Ahmad Nur expressed gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him and his accompanying delegation.

AFP Reports 2 MiG's Lost, Guerrilla Leader Dies
OW012108 Paris AFP in English 1941 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 1 (AFP) — The Afghan Air Force lost two Soviet MIG planes during "indiscriminate" bombing raids on villages around Kabul last week in which some 500 houses were destroyed, Moslem resistance sources said today.

And in the north where the fighting intensified last month the resistance lost their chief commander in Qonduz.

Pehalawan Mohammed Jan, who headed guerrilla raids north of Kabul since the overthrow of the Marxist ruler Nur Mohammed Taraki in a palace shootout in 1979, had claimed responsibility for destroying 70 Soviet tanks in various ambushes.

Jan is the fourth major commander the resistance lost during the past few months and his death in a three-hour battle with government troops on the Qonouz-Baghlan highway, in which five tanks and eight military vehicles were destroyed, has been mourned by almost all resistance groups as "a big loss to Jihad" (holy war), the sources said.

According to reports reaching the Pakistan border town of Peshawar, the worst hit areas of the aerial raids were Koh Safi and Bacha Khan northeast of the capital Kabul.

However the guerrilla commander of the area, Jalal Udoin, responsible for the past several ambushes, had order evacuation of the civilian population after being informed in advance about the Soviet attack on the rebel-infested villages, the sources said.

Reports said the civilian losses could be no more than 20 as people had taken refuge in the mountains close by.

However, the guerrillas who took up positions brought down two MIG jets with Chinese-made heavy Dashaka gunfire in Koh Deh Sabz area 15 kms (nine miles) north east of Kabul, they said. Five Mojahedin died in the Koh Dea Sabz clash, the sources said.

The rebel sources quoting unconfirmed reports said the two more jets crashed at Az-Bashi near Bagaram air base while another two helicopters were hit by the Mojahedin fire in the Kharote area.

The sources believe that the Soviet-Afghan raids could have been directed against Betauw and Chahar Maghzzar because the two villages were headquarters of the Peshawar-based Harkat e Inilabi Afghanistan and Jamiat-i-Islami Afghanistan.

The two groups had reportedly planned attacks on military posts in Koh Deh Sabz area as the pro-regime forces there were obstructing supplies to the Mojahedin-controlled villages villages around kabul.

SPA: Forced Conscription Heightens Tension in Qandahar
LD292231 Riyadh SPA in English 1913 GMT 29 Jul 83

[Text] Islamabad, July 29, SPA — Tension has been heightened in Qandahar, the Afghanistan's second biggest city, following forced conscription of 2,500 Afghans last week, London-based AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS (AAP) reported here today.

The agency said Soviet helicopter gunships strafed and bombed (Arghandab) country, north-west of Qandahar, trying to cut off Mujahideen links with the city.

It said a tank of Afghan Government mobile force hit resistance mines on July 15 at Shigah, near Qandahar and was destroyed.

Another tank was destroyed on July 17 at Wat in Spin-Buldak area, close to Pakistan border with Mujahideen rocket-fire, AAP said.

Briefs

Delegation Returns From USSR — Engineer Nazar Mohamad, minister of public works and head of a delegation visiting the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet State Committee for Construction, returned to Kabul today. The minister said that during this visit he had fruitful talks with Soviet authorities on construction matters based on the 1982 scientific and technical cooperation protocol. A protocol for scientific and technical cooperation for 1983-1985 was signed between the DRA Ministry of Public Works and the Soviet State Committee for Construction. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Jul 83 LD]

Ershad Addresses Dhaka Bar Association 31 July

BK011038 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The chief martial law administrator [CMLA], General H.M. Ershad, has said the law reforms, separation of judiciary from executive, and decentralization of judiciary undertaken by the present government will add a new dimension to the establishment of the rule of law and quick dispensation of justice in the country.

Addressing the members of the Dhaka District Bar Association at the Bar library during his surprise visit to the court building today, he said the government wants that the lawyers continue their noble profession with honor and dignity.

Gen Ershad said he had been traveling from one corner of the country to the other in an effort to improve the condition of the teeming millions. He wants to bring a new surge of life in all spheres of national life, and the lawyers, who are the most respected and enlightened persons in the society, should come forward and help in accomplishing this task.

The CMLA said measures are being taken for final disposal of the vested and abandoned property by December next. This will mark the abolition of the (?self-possessed) property and put an end to corruption in this sector. He wants to remove corruption by bringing procedural changes in every sector of administration, he also said.

Later, Gen Ershad paid a surprise visit to the Supreme Court Bar Association and exchanged views with the members on various matters connected with their profession and judiciary in general.

In course of the discussion, various measures undertaken by the government for the welfare of the people were hailed. The members of the bar requested the CMLA take measures, among other things, for further toning up of the judiciary, establishment of an appellate tribunal of the administrative tribunal, appointment of judges in the appellate tribunal of the labor courts, and ensure a mechanism for the prompt supply of certified copies of the judgments and decrees and sufficient availability of the nonjudicial stamps.

The CMLA assured them of all possible measures to ensure the expeditious dispensation of justice. Gen Ershad sanctioned 1 million taka for furniture and books for the Supreme Court Bar Association library.

Gandhi Urges End to Sri Lanka Killings

BK011613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister said that it is of utmost importance that the killings in Sri Lanka be stopped and the fire of conflict is put out. Addressing the Congress-I workers in Allahabad today, Mrs Gandhi said other issues connected with the problem can be sorted out later. As far as India is concerned, it is not the problem of Tamil Nadu or anyone, but for the entire nation.

Sir Lanka's Hameed Comments on Assistance

BK011611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The Sri Lanka foreign minister, Mr Hameed, met Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi this morning. No aides were present, but Mr Narasimha Rao jointed the meeting toward the end.

Mr Hameed had a separate meeting with the external affairs minister. He left this evening for home.

He told newsmen at the airport that he had conveyed a message from President Jayewardene to the prime minister. The message said that the law-and-order situation in Sri Lanka is steadily improving.

Mr Hameed was asked to comment on a report by the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL that Sri Lanka has asked the United States, Britain, Pakistan, and Bangladesh for pledges of back up assistance if events in that country make it necessary. He replied that if Sri Lanka is seeking assistance from the international community, it will seek it from India also.

Tamil Nadu Chief Comments on Sri Lanka

BK011649 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister said in Madras that he is confident that the center will take appropriate action at the right time with regard to the developments in Sri Lanka. Mr M.G. Ramachandran told newsmen that the center's participation and support to the bundh [closure] itself is a reassurance of its concern for the Tamilians in that country and added that it has now become a national issue.

The Janata Party in the Rajya Sabha has said that the issue in Sri Lanka is not merely of Tamils, but of organized official discrimination against linguistic and cultural minorities.

The Communist Party of India has also criticized the banning of leftist parties in the island.

In Tamil Nadu hundreds of processions and rallies were held throughout the state today to voice the people's concern and anguish over the happenings in Sri Lanka.

In Madras the subarban electrict train services were disrupted.

Gandhi Issues Appeal to Palestinian Factions

BK020415 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] The prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has appealed to the fighting Palestinian factions to respect the cease-fire agreement between them. In a statement to the Saudi Arabian daily *Ar-Riyad*, she said the continuation of clashes between Palestinian factions would have negative effects on efforts they are making to restore their legitimate rights. Mrs Gandhi reaffirmed India's support to the Palestinian issue, which was the core of the West Asia problem. She reiterated India's support also to a pan-Arab peace plan endorsed by the Arab Fes committee.

Minister on Heavy Water Purchase From USSR

BK280959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Jul 83

[Text] The country will be able to meet fully the demand for heavy water when two more plants are set up in the near future. Giving this information in the Rajya Sabha, the minister for science and technology, Mr Shivraj Patil, said the work on the two plants has already started. He said the capacity of the present five heavy water plants in the country is equal to our current demand for it.

Mr Patil said the heavy water from the Soviet Union is being purchased for the Kota atomic power plant as the terms of agreement were less stringent than the other countries which demanded the signing of the nonproliferation treaty and full safeguards through inspection.

Pact for Licensed Production of MiG-27's Signed

BK291010 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Jul 83

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, confirmed in the Lok Sabha today that an agreement has been signed with the Soviet Union for licensed production of Mig-27 aircraft in India. Answering a question, he denied that there is an overall credit negotiated with the Soviet Union for defense purchases; however, certain defense stores are purchased against credit, that is, negotiated in each individual case, he added.

In reply to a question about arms acquisition by Pakistan, the minister said available information suggests Pakistan has been acquiring a variety of military equipment from China. This includes aircraft, tanks, and missile boats. He said it will not be in public interest to give details.

The defense minister said the government has seen a report that Pakistan will purchase 60 more F-16 aircraft from the United States. However, there is no confirmed information in this matter. He assured the house all developments having a bearing on India's security are monitored and steps taken to ensure full defense preparadness at all time.

Envoy Complains to UN About Afghan Border Violations

BK011735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Pakistan has complained to the UN Security Council that its airspace was violated 22 times from Afghanistan and its territory violated 11 times by artillery and tank fire between January and June this year.

In a letter, the Pakistan ambassador, Mr S. Shahnawaz, has said military aircraft and helicopter gunships bearing Afghan markings had on a number of occasions penetrated several miles into Pakistan's airspace. In some cases, rockets were fired that landed inside Pakistan territory.

The letter further says one serious incident occurred on 9 April when a number of artillery shells were fired at a group of Pakistani villagers, injuring a child and damaging some houses.

Labor Leaders Endorse MRD Call for 14 August

GF010530 Karachi Dawn in English 28 Jul p 12

[By staff reporter]

[Text] About 100 representatives of various trade unions and labour bodies had a collective meeting with the MRD leaders in Karachi on Wednesday and were assured categorically that in the future democratic set-up the rights of labour would be fully secured.

The labour leaders, on their part, endorsed the MRD's call for Aug. 14 pro-democracy movement, saying that as the workers had consistently been in the vanguard of all democratic movements they would now also do their "national duty as an organised class."

They informed the MRD leaders that a manifesto of the working class had been prepared by a 10-member committee appointed by the five workers' federations, namely, the United Workers' Federation, Pakistan Labour Organisation, Pakistan Bank Employees' Federation, Joint Labour Federation and Pakistan Trade Union Federation.

The manifesto, they added, will be put up for approval at a general body meeting on Aug. 1 in Karachi.

The labour representatives, accordingly, told the MRD leaders that the workers' manifesto, as approved, will be available to them for perusal and wished that it would receive formal endorsement for the MRD leadership.

Speaking on the occasion, Khwaja Khairuddin, secretary - general of the MRD, said that the "injustices" done to the workers would be done away with when a democratic government came into power. Besides, the trade union rights would be restored and "dignity re-established to the working class," he added.

Mr Abid Zuberi, central information secretary of the defunct NDP [National Democratic Party] at whose residence the group meeting was held, welcomed the assurances held out by the labour and, at the same time, assured them of the MRD's commitment to the cause of the working class as incorporated in the MRD's 31-point charter.

Briefs

Cotton Production — Cotton production this year has again crossed the production target. This year's target was fixed at 4.8 million bales. This is the 3d year that cotton production has maintained its rising trend. Next year's cotton production target has been fixed at 5.2 million bales. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Jul 83 BK]

Iron for India — Pakistan is to sell 100,000 tons of pig iron to India. The federal minister for production Lieutenant General Said Qadir told newsmen in Karachi today that in response to international tenders, Pakistan's bid was the lowest. [Text][Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Jul 83 BK]

Aid for Refugees — Canada is to give an aid of $500,000 for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. This is an addition to the the total cash aid of about $17 million and more than $38 million worth of food aid which was provided by Canada for Afghan refugees following Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Jul 83 BK]

SRI LANKA

Curfew, Censorship Continue; No Incidents Cited

BK011203 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The curfew will be reimposed at 1400 today. It will be relaxed at 0400 tomorrow. The curfew was relaxed at 0430 this morning after being enforced during the entire weekend. No incident has been reported from any part of the country.

The curfew, however, did not hamper the transport of food and other essential items since essential services were placed into uniterrupted service to meet consumer demands in all parts of the country. All public offices and corporations, other than those coming under the perview of essential services, have been closed today. Diminishing queues were seen today outside public and private sector service outlets since there was no breakdown in supply.

According to our special correspondent, sufficient quantities of vegetables, coconuts, and other essential items are available in and around Colombo today. These were transported to the city from the outstations.

The department of marketing development, the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment [CEW], the food department, and the paddy marketing board are releasing uniterrupted supplies to the market. Following this move the prices of food items are plunging. Private sector trade establishments have also been kept open today to meet consumer demands.

The minister of trade and shipping has appealed to all consumers to obtain their requirements without excessive purchases. The minister this morning inspected the food distribution within the Colombo city. The distribution of food in other parts of the country was also reviewed. The CWE has opened 47 additional sales outlets within the Colombo municipal limit.

Meanwhile, according to the chairman of the petroleum corporation, petroleum supplies throughout the country, with the exception of the areas served by the Jaffna and Kilinochchi depots, are now back to normal. He told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation Today that dealers have been instructed to sell products without any restriction whatsoever. Dealers who are in need of petroleum products are requested to contact the corporation on 57233 or 93289.

All materials, including pictorial representation, photographs,or films, whether for publication in Sri Lanka or for transmission abroad relating to the existing law-and-order situation in the country, should be submitted prior to publication or transmission to Mr Douhlas Liyanage, secretary, Ministry of State. He has been appointed competent authority under Section 5 of the Emergency Regulation No 3 of 1983. The [words indistinct] security enforcement measure, to settlement and movements of displaced persons and to any event or incident whether in Sri Lana or in any other country which might be prejudicial to the interest of national security or preservation of public order or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community or to matter inciting or encouraging persons to mutiny, riots, or civil commotion. These material or documents could be submitted or exhibited to Mr Liyanage at the Department of Information.

Political Arrests Ordered; Censorship Tightened

BK011333 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The scope of the law relating to censorship is to be tightened. All materials regarding security enforcement measures, settlement and movement of displaced persons, or any event or incident, whether in Sri Lanka or in any other country, which might be prejudicial to the interest of national security and the preservation of public order will be subject to censorship. This will be the case even in materials related to [word indistinct] or encourage persons to mutiny, riots, or engage in civil commotion.

This was revealed by the secretary to the Ministry of State, Douglas Liyanage, when he briefed newsmen at the Information Department in Colombo today on the current situation in the country.

A number of arrests have been ordered consequent to the proscribing of three political parties, according to Mr Liyanaga. He added that a complete list of the arrested persons will be published once these arrests were made.

Speaking about the security situation, he said that there had been a great improvement in and around Colombo, according to police reports. The rest of the island was quiet. [Word indistinct] area had been the only troubled spot yesterday, but no reports of incidents have been received since then.

Presidential Order Defines Essential Services

BK011632 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Special announcement]

[Text] By order made by his excellency the president under emergency regulations, the following ave been declared essential services: the supply, preservation, and distribution of articles of food and drink; the supply or distribution of fuel, including petroleum products and gas; the supply of electricity; public transport (?buses) for passengers or goods; water supply; postal, telephone, telecast, and broadcasting services; all services, work, or labor connected with all ports, tea, rubber, and coconut plantations, and sale, storage, and shipping of (?produce); all hospitals — both government and private; all services of local authorities; all air, road, and rail transport services, including roads and airports and services provided by any government department or brnach thereof; the services provided by any public corporation or branch thereof; and the services provided by all cooperative societies and unions.

Colombo Reports Curfew Lifting, Reimposition

BK020200 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] The curfew, which remained in force throughout Sri Lanka last night, was lifted at 0400 this morning. It will be reimposed at 1500 and will continue until 0500 tororrow morning.

All government offices and corporations will remain open today as usual. They will close early in the evening to enable employees to return to their homes before the reimposition of the curfew.

Trade Minister Urges Support for Jayewardene

BK011701 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] The trading community can do much to alleviate sufferings of innocent consumers. This observation was made by the minister of trade and shipping, Lalith Athulathmudali, in a broadcast over the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation this evening. He promised the concerning public that they would not be inconvenient alone.

The minister said a special responsibility lies not only with the trading community, but the people who supported the government. It is the duty of those who elected the government to take it along the path for which it was elected. There are several lessons to be learned from the current situation. There is a paramount importance of preserving law and order. There is a commitment and loyalty which must be to our country, a feeling for the whole nation. Sri Lanka is the undoubted world of the Sinhalese people and other people must (?live) on the land.

Lalith Athulathmudali pointed out that we are a multireligious, multiracial nation. The government decided that on Thursday, the 4th, it will make it illegal for the people to espouse [words indistinct] separatism. He was of the view that there is a hidden hand behind these events. Those responsible stand to gain if the country is disrupted.

The minister noted that other countries had gone through worst times and have come through. We have an elected government to implement the program of work promised and to [word indistinct] jobs and income. There is no one else for Sri Lanka other than President Jayewardene. We need to give him unstinted support. People must act in every way possible to end terrorism and extremism. We must uphold the unity of Sri Lanka and reaffirm the right of all people in the country to live in peace.

Mr Athulathmudali emphasized that we have a strong and effective government which can give us [words indistinct] and a hard fight to end poverty.

SUN Criticizes Gandhi for Interference

BK010914 Colombo Sun in English 22 Jul 83 p 7

[Editorial: "The Big Bully"]

[Text] That India, self appointed super power that she is, has dared to intervene in the internal affairs of sovereign Sri Lanka by expressing her uncalled for concern at the recent developments in the north, in blatant violation of international norms, is an affront to the whole of the Nonaligned Movement which professes as its main aim the non-interference in the internal policies of another sovereign state.

That India, charged as she is with the high responsibility of upholding and promoting the movement's aims as its leader has in undue assumption of importance, shown such callous disregard to its role as keeper of the collective conscience of the nonaligned nations. Now she has arrogated to herself the role of arbiter between one nonaligned country and another to the disgust not only of its present members, but we venture to think, that of its founder members including her late father Jawaharlal Nehru who more than once rejused to entangle India in the internal conflicts among nations of West Asia. But his daughter is different.

For instance in the war with Pakistan did she not help bifurcate that nation and create what is now called Bangladesh which, even after so many years, still remains poor and divided in the extreme with no hope of even raising its head until a miracle happens or India releases its 'stranglehold'.

The world was led to expect much of Indira Gandhi. Wasn't she Sri Jawaharlal Nehru's daughter and didn't she bear the appendage of Gandhi (not a relative of the great Mahatma)? The world thus believed that here was the true apostle of Ahimsa [nonviolence]. What do we find? She seems to have turned into a war-monger and has in Mr. Bajpai a sort of smooth talking Tallyrand.

The great American publisher Randolph Hearst is supposed to have told Stanley: 'You supply the story — I will make the war'. Which he did. This appears to be Indira Priyadarshini Nehru Gandhi's way of thinking also. Let Bajpai and Chatwal create the background and she may be planning to send in her Navy to surround Lanka.

Students now graduating at the universities will remember how India placed a necklace of Men-of-War around Lanka during the insurrection in 1971, when Sri Lanka underwent the trauma of an uprising against the state.

We are experiencing a similar trauma now and if Mrs. Gandhi wishes to, she could as a first step extradite the terrorists now being held in Madras after a shoot out in Pondi Bazaar and those

who have taken refuge in various hide-outs in her country. He police must surely be able to trace them. For there must still be some of the efficient men of now-disbanded MISA [Maintenance of Internal Security Act] which was of greater help to her in her 1974-77 regime.

That would have been a friendly act not only on the part of India but also on the part of the head of Nonaligned Movement.

Even now hundreds are being jailed or killed for demanding a separate state from her tottering India. Hasn't her militia invaded the sacred Golden Temple of Amritsar in a bid to arrest the leaders of the Punjabis? It is recent history that a portion of Asaf Ali Road in Delhi was set on fire to rid tenants because they were an eyesore.

We also recall that Mrs. Gandhi ignored even personal feelings when she had her daughter-in-law arrested for going on a peaceful protest march and went on record to say that Maneka was inveigled into her family by interested parties who wished to get closer to the ruling clique in the early 1970s.

There are many smaller fry to be sacrificed in the cause of a greater India and Jawans come cheap. It is they who kept her falling popularity propped up in the early seventies.

We would also like to refer her to the atrocities going on in nearer home Afghanistan. What has she done about that except to make pious speeches which mean nothing. For please to remember that she has signed a twenty-year Friendship Treaty with Russia.

We cannot but compare her cringing all the time to Russian atrocities in Kabul and her high-falluting Aide Memoir which she had the brass to address to our country.

Oh but we forget. Perhaps the Russian lobby willed it and Indira in a bid to show that she is master of all South Asia succumbed to the temptation even as Eve did before her.

Think of it — the early bird gets the worm and were she to fly Indian tri-colour (with the Asokan Lions) she would be able to claim the golden fleece — in this case Trincomalee. A strategic plum for which the Bear and Uncle Sam have laid covetous eyes.

Perhaps Indira thinks that she should make a try for it. But she slipped. She reckoned without Jason....sorry. Junius!

Khomeyni, Officials Decide To Send Pilgrims to Mecca

LD011148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Imam Khomeyni's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, Kho'ini; the minister of Islamic guidance, Mohammad Khatami; and supervisor of the Hajj and Pilgrimage Organization,Abolfazl Tavvakoli were received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They reported to him on measures already taken as well as those under way and the difficulties facing the Iranian pilgrims going to Mecca.

Musavi Kho'ini and Khatami afterward spoke briefly to our correspondent about the pilgrimage by the Iranian pilgrims: The Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all the obstructions created by Saudi Arabia, has decided to send all its pilgrims — more than 95,000 — to Mecca on the pilgrimage, according to its plan. Obviously, Saudi Arabia has created some difficulties with regard to accommodations for the Iranian pilgrims. However, we will do our best to provide the necessary facilities for them. As for the obstructions created by Saudi Arabia, they will not stop pilgrims from our country from going to Mecca, even if it means having our pilgrims stay in the Holy Mosque, other mosques, or in tents. Our final decision is to send all the pilgrims, God willing, to Mecca.

Resignations of Commerce, Labor Ministers Accepted

GF011702 Tehran IRNA in English 1654 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran Aug 1 IRNA — The resignations of ministers of commerce and labor are accepted today by President 'Ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi.

Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi and Ahmad Tavakkoli resigned earlier this week. Two persons have been temporarily assigned to run the two ministries affairs until substitutes for the resigned ministers are introduced to the Majlis within a short time. The names of the two officials who will provisionally run the two ministries were not available immediately.

Acting Labor Minister Appointed

LD020127 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 2 IRNA — Mehdi Moinfar has been appointed acting minister for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi today.

The post was vacant due to resignation of Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Ahmad Tavakkoli. The resignation was accepted by President Seyyed 'ali Khamene'i and Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi Monday.

Moinfar previously was working in the same ministry as deputy minister in charge of social affairs and employment services.

Moinfar was born in Tehran in 1949 and received his education from the Tehran University. He received a post graduate degree in engineering.

Due to his political activities he was jailed for 10 years in the previous regime but was freed at the time of the culmination of the Islamic Revolution.

Following the success of the revolution he worked with the foundation of the deprived and also with a morning Persian daily, *Sobh-e Azadegan.*

Clandestine Radios React to Ministers' Resignations

Radio Iran Predicts Purge

GF011900 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Aug 93

[Excerpts]Compatriots: The sacking of the hojjatiyeh members and all those opposing the leftist programs and plans in the government of the Islamic Republic has started. [Words indistinct] under pressure from 110 Majlis deputies and other power centers. There is talk in Tehran about a very large purge in the government by Tudeh'i religious figures. The firing of Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman, minister of commerce, and Ahmad Tavvakoli had been demanded by the Tudeh Party many times. Mostafa Tabrizi, Borujerd Majlis deputy and one of the advocates of ending private ownership, recently asked the prime minister to purge his Cabinet and reorganize it in order to implement revolutionary plans.

Following the purge of 'Asgar-Owladi-Moslaman and Tavvakoli, REUTER reported that the reason for their purge was their opposition to government programs in combating the private sector. 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman and Tavvakoli considered the crushing of the private sector and the nationalization of foreign and domestic trade leftist and anti-Islamic proposals while Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, who enjoys the support of the leftist elements in theMajlis, says that the bill to nationalize foreign trade must go into effect, basic daily needs should be rationed, and government must have a direct hand in import and distribution of goods.

It has been said in Tehran that the purge is not going to be limited to Cabinet members. A group of administrative officials in various parts of the country will be forced out soon. Nationalist elements in the Interior Ministery of the Islamic Republic report that the imami faction has prepared a list of governorgenerals, governors and district governors who have stood up to the imamis and especially some of the Friday imams, and some of them will soon be forced out. The name of Toqa', Fars governor general, and the names of a number of other governor generals, governors, and district governors are on this list. The purge of the Cabinet can be considered the start of plans supported and encouraged by the defunct traitorous Tudeh Party.

Evidence shows that the announcement of the arrest of another 50 Tudeh'is at the time of expulsion of 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman and Tavvakoli from the government is an attempt to divert public opinion and show that the Islamic regime has not forgotten the campaign against the Tudeh Party. *Jomhuri-ye Eslami*, the official publication of the Islamic Republican Party — the party which is the center of the imamis — was the first newspaper to report this with great fanfare. There is more evidence showing that the judicial policy of the regime toward the traitorous

leaders of the Tudeh Party is completely different from the past behavior of the shari'a magistrates who executed opposition prisoners following 2-minute standing courts. Use of influence by the imamis and religious Tudeh'is has resulted in repeated postponement of the Tudeh trial.

There are other indications that based on the support of the Tudeh'i religious figures in the Majlis and by putting aside all religious obstacles, the government will implement the plot to maintain Tudeh'i policies in the country. We remind you that there are some elements in the government and the Majlis whose support for leftist policies is undeniable. Elements such as Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Musavi-Kho'iniha, Seyyed Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Mohammad Gharazi, and Behzad Nabavi, whose steadfast support of the Tudehization of the economy of the Islamic Republic is proof of the presence of the left in the Islamic leadership.

The question is what would be the extent of a retreat forced on the leftist religious figures by the reaction of the religious circles, sources of emulations and especially religious students and clergymen in Qom, Mashhad, [names indistinct] such as supporters of Ayatollah Qomi in Mashhad and Ayatollah (Pishva) in Shiraz? We remind you that Ayatollah Golpayegani has warned that should the plan to eliminate private ownership go into effect he will not remain silent.

Free Voice of Iran Sees Split

GF011920 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The illegal Terhan government has suffered a split. Two of the ministers of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi's Cabinet were unable to continue their government membership and with their departure, the Tehran Cabinet has been split. Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman and Ahmad Tavvakoli are ministers who supposedly resigned their posts respectively as the ministers of commerce and labor. This maneuver by Musavi's government has made the hojjatiyeh faction start its own moves, and there is a possibility that there will a severe reaction to the government power play by the hojjatiyehs in the next few days. 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman, former commerce minister of Ayatollah Khomeyni, is a terrorist with a record and his departure from the Cabinet has weakened the hojjatiyehs.

There has been a great deal of talk about Mr Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman, the terrorist member of the clandestine Feda'iyan-e Eslam organization. His expulsion or so-called resignation shows the extreme weakness of the government of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi with respect to providing the essential daily needs of the people. For some time, the former commerce minister was under attack by the leftist mullah factions, known as imamis, as the person responsible for the shortages of essential goods and the unplanned purchases made by the government. These conditions persist throughout the entire country irrespective of the new maneuver by the government of Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. The government of incompetent Mir-Hoseyn Musavi is incapable of supplying basic services such as water, power, gas, health, medicine, and transport of goods.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique 1,405

LD011749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,405 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The combatants of Islam have the initiative as they firmly continue their battle against the Saddamist aggressors.

In the Val-Fajr II operational zone, our forces are established in the liberated areas and are consolidating their position and engaging in defensive fire.

In the Val-Fajr III operational zone,our combatants are continuing their operations with the aim of destroying the remnants of enemy forces. Enemy troops are still resisting on some of the heights that our forces have surrounded and fierce clashes and exchanges of fire are continuing.

From the start of Val-Fajr III operation to date, 130 Iraqi POW's have been transferred to the rear.

In the Marivan area yesterday, the Islamic forces' fire destroyed an emeny mortar launcher and set a number of personnel bunkers in Bivarah and Hargineh on fire.

Sporadic exchanges f artillery and mortar fire continued on the southern fronts. Fire was more intense in the Sharhani area.In this region, one moving enemy vehicle column was seen by our forces, who fired on it. Our forces also neutralized enemy infantry reconnaissance in east (Shalamcheh) region and stopped the enemy from frequenting the northeastern area of (Pichangzeh). In the (Badliyeh) region, our forces' fire prevented enemy patrols from penetrating our forces' defensive positions.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational sector, exchanges of fire across the Arvand Rud continued yesterday and our combatant units brought enemy combat engineering work to a stop and prevented Iraqi vehicles from using the Al-Faw-Basra axis. Three enemy observation posts were destroyed and eight Saddamist troops were killed.

Yesterday enemy heavy and long-range weapons' fire on Abadan damaged seven houses and gutted a few places in that city.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Headquarters Issues Report on Val-Fajr III

LD011119 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] On the basis of a report from the An-Najaf Ashraf Headquarters, joint operations headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the victorious Val-Fajr III operations continue,

with the mighty Islamic combatants maintaining their impressive superiority. Our combatants continue to deal crushing blows to the enemy in the Mehran region.

From the launching of Val-Fajr III up to now — operations which culiminated in the liberation of some sectors of the Islamic homeland, the liberation of three important strategic heights in the region, and the killing and wounding of more than 3,000 enemy troops as well as the destruction of a considerable amount of enemy equipment and weapons — the mighty Islamic combatants destroyed more than 50 to 60 percent of Iraq's 4th Border Brigade as well as the 417th and 420th Brigades and the 502d Infantry Brigade and the 37th Armored Brigade of the enemy's XII Army Corp.

Moreover, one enemy tank battalion, the commando (Balal) Battalion and the 420th [word indistinct] infantry battalion were completely destroyed. The report adds that three Iraqi commanders were seen among the enemy dead. Also, 130 Iraqi POW's, including 5 officers, have been transferred behind the lines. The same report says that heavy fighting continues in the Val-Fajr III operational area, with our forces having superiority and consolidating their positions.

IRNA Reports Iraqi Casualties Reach 1,000

LD021028 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 2 Aug 83

[Text] Najaf Ashraf Hq., Aug. 2, IRNA — Two more Iraqi military bases were captured and some 400 Iraqi forces were killed or wounded, in Mehran area last night as the Iranian forces continued their advance, as part of the Val Fajr-3 offensive.

Furthermore, according to reports, in continuation of the operation launched in the central sector of the warfronts last Saturday, the Islamic forces destroyed more than ten enemy tanks. The Islamic forces who are advancing ahead in the region have repelled Iraqi counter-offensives, inflicting heavy damages on the enemy's military equipment.

In the past 24 hours the Iraqi casualties have reached one thousand.

Fierce fighting continues in the region with the superiority of the Iranian forces. While strengthening the captured positions, the Islamic combatants are making advances.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Gives Friday Sermon 29 July

LD291859 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Tehran's provisional Friday imam [Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani] devoted today's second Friday prayers sermon to the war and the victorious Val-Fajr II operations.

He began by explaining the relatively quiescent period that prevailed on the fronts prior to the Val-Fajr II operations. He said: One of the reasons for this is our overall policy whereby we are against bloodshed to obtain victory at all costs. We believe that to achieve victory we should finish the job with extremely low casualties among our great forces and the meek Iraqi Army. However, the world had totally different interpretations of this state of affairs: The deliveries disseminated by the world propaganda mouthpieces gradually convinced Saddam and his backers that the Islamic Republic of Iran was no longer capable of waging war. For that reason, they no longer discussed the concessions which they were ready to give and they even resorted to attacks on certain points.

Continuing his speech, Tehran's provisional Friday imam reemphasized the former policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which considered war and operations as a means to attain peace and delay the attack or the beginning of the same so as to extinguish the flames of war and achieve its rights and punish the oppressor, and then expounded on the Val-Fajr II operations.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Despite the fact that we did not make much fanfare of the Val-Fajr II operations and tried to minimize their importance, they were compact but extremely important operations which could only be appreciated by those who know the Hajj 'Umran region and the area west of Piranshah. The mountains around that area are about 3,000 meters high and the region was considered the most important base of the Iraqi regime in Kordestan: They relied on it as an unconquerable redoubt. In the mountain crevices and on the hillsides, too, bases and outposts were built out of which we have so far captured more than 50, apart from the great quantities of equipment and weapons which they had collected in the area. There are still huts in that area which we have not been able to clear of weapons because of the fighting going on.

From the standpoint of the composition of the forces, the Iraqis were still continuing to organize and prepare our counterrevolutionaries in that area and because of the lies which they had concocted about Kordestan they thought they would not be able to dispatch and organize forces in this region. But despite all these considerations, our combatants carried out with extraordinary speed this extremely difficult task. Since the day we accomplished this task, Saddam and his closest entourage are constantly around this area to retrieve it. All this is indicative of the extent to which their morale has been broken and of the difficulties they have encountered.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani in continuation added: They might resort to demoagogy and say that they were caught unaware. Of course, we wanted to catch them unaware, but they were not caught unaware since the documents shown by mr Sham'khani, deputy head of the Guards Corps, to the Supreme Defense Council indicated that the Iraqis were well aware of the day and the direction of the attack, but their weak morale prevented their defense.

Tehran's provisional Friday imam referred to the remarks by the Iraqi foreign minister to the effect that Iraq might destroy Iran's vital centers in the Persian Gulf and to the riposte by the Islamic Republic of Iran that, should Iran's security be endangered, no force would be able to guarantee the security of the Persian Gulf. He said: The West made use of that Iranian riposte to cloud the war issue and despite the fact that we took newsmen to the area and demonstrated to them the importance of these oper

ations, they still try to belittle the successes achieved by our combatants.

He then referred to the traces of the victories scored by Islam's combatants in the Val-Fajr II operations: If the region from Hajj 'Umran valley to Darband in Iraq are in the hands of our combatant Iraqi and Iranian Kordestan will no longer serve the mercenaries in the pay of the Saddamist regime and Iraq's revolutionary forces will be able to turn this region into a base for liberating northern Iraq from the evil of the Saddamists. If they were to show some zeal the oil pipelines from Kirkuk to Turkey would no longer enjoy the former degree of security and the Saddam regime would also be deprived of this source of income.

Continuing he referred to the political significance of this issue : The counterrevolutionaries, whether the Monafeqin,the Tudehis, the Peykarists, Democrats [Kurdish Democratic Party],Feda'is, and their ilk have so far maintained that the Islamic Republic of Iran would not be able to carry out anything in this area because of its involvement in the situation in Western Azarbayjan and Kordestan. Under that pretext,they used to obtain money and arms from their masters. But we dispatched so many forces and equipment to that area and carried out a movement with such dimensions and so well that what the agents and domestic servants of imperialism said turned out to be complete lies, and all these things make clear a great many things to a world built on mirages, chimeras, and daydreams. For instance, both the West and the USSR counted on the Tudeh Party and invested in it. The USSR entertained hopes for the future and the West disseminated propaganda on the threat posed by communism and other things. But in a short while, with their removal from the scene, the USSR understood that it had tied itself to a mere mirage and chimera and the West realized that all its propaganda was in vain. All this stems from the fact that they do not understand the dynamics of our movement and actions and cannot comprehend them. And now too those military men who are in the know understand from our moves, recent victories, and the lack of mobility by counterrevolution that a great many of the calculations were wrong.

Continuing Hashemi-Rafsanjani referrred to the latest moves by the Saddamists: [Begin recording] When they see from where they are being dealt a blow, they imagine that it is an easy matter and that they can do what the Iranians have been able to achieve. I am referring to their action yesterday. Yesterday they moved in this manner: Saddam and, as I said, his lieutenants, came to Irbil and moved the brigades which had been there a year ago and knew the terrain very well, including the 98th Brigade, and concentrated their helicopter forces, their airborne forces in order to carry these troops by helicopter into the region, just as we had transported our forces there by helicopter. But now see what ignorance and lack of proper planning can do! One of the things which we did was that we transported our forces by helicopter to certain hills which were difficult to climb. For instance, some were several hundred meters high and of course the troops involved would have been hit. So these helicopters carried and landed our forces there and these forces immediately made room for themselves and began firing. So the Iraqis also thought that everyone could do that. Only, the difference is what I am now going to tell you. When our forces pour out of helicopters onto certain bases, they have no fear; all they have are their lives and their guns. They move fast and kill the Iraqi soldier and sit in his place and use the same weapons and ammunition that he used and begin fighting. One of our battalion commanders or brigade commanders reported : He had gone to Rayat, near Rayat, from where he reported by wireless say ing: Even if you do not join me in several days I could still continue fighting here using the capabilities afforded by this very base. [loud applause, chanting of slogans]

So the Iraqis wanted to do the same. Yesterday they mobilized 40 helicopters, 7 of which were gunships that came into the battlefield; some were transporting forces. They kept pouring forces there. Well, when a commando alights, no matter what kind of a giant he is, he would bring along with him a quantity of ammunition. This should reach him. He should either find that in situ or he should have the same brought to him. So they kept bringing these poor people along and landed on the hillsides and after firing a few bursts they were finished. They kept shouting over the wireless: "Why don't we get some ammo, pal. We have run out here!" And the other side could not send any. So a great many of those poor people came along and sometimes they even opened fire on one another, in other words, our listening troops directed them to hit one another. The more forces they brought along yesterday to land on those hills the more our forces hit their helicopters in the air and hit their troops on the ground where their weapons were left behind. One cannot transport forces by helicopters and land them behind enemy lines; fighting inside the front cannot be carried out in this manner. Things simply cannot be carried out in this manner whereby Saddam would go to Irbil and exhort his troops to move on. For to tell them to get a move on is like that pilot who, when told he had to fly, well, he would do so drop his bombs in the desert and return and say: I hit the target dead center and the proof of this is the smoke which I saw rising from the fire. Well, what else could he say but this! This is how they act when they send them out in that fashion. But our forces are not dispatched in this manner.

I listened to an interview given by one of the officers who had taken part in the fighting in the front. He said that he was wounded. When they were on the move with their comrades he told his comrades: I am a mine expert, you should not move ahead of me, for if you were to do so it would be dangerous for you. I will move ahead. Another brother came to him begging: Please let me come with you so that we will be together should something happen!

This is how our troops behave. The soldier defuses the mine and he is happy for should the mine explode he would be jumping from the top of the mine into paradise. This is how he thinks. Now these people can be transported by helicopters and landed behind the front and they go and take over the enemy's weapons and fight the enemy there and then. In Hajj 'Umran today we are fighting using the enemy's weapons! We send away what we do not need and what we need we keep there. We fight with the same weapons. [end recording]

Radio Iran on Majlis Speaker's Remarks on War
GF311554 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 31 Jul 83

[Text] In today's open session of the Majlis, Mullah 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani called the success of Val-Fajr III operation, a plan to end the war. He basically connected the ending of the war to the payment of war reparations by Iraq and warned that the heavier the damages suffered by the Islamic Republic, the higher will be Iran's demands for reparations from Iraq.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in his speech in the Majlis today, for the first time, did not refer to the aim of the latest operation as victory and called it a prelude to end the war between the Islamic Republic and Iraq.

Musavi Comments on Iraqi War, Hajj, Olympics
LD311046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jul 83

[Text] The Cabinet met this morning with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi presiding. At the conclusion of this meeting, the prime minister spoke to our correspondent on topics discussed by the Cabinet:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you must have expected today, issues relating to the war were examined. The efforts rendered by our combatants at the fronts, especially at the central front and the northwestern front, were discussed in detail, and the Cabinet paid tribute to their bravery in dealing heavy blows to Saddam's regime. These topics were reviewed, with God's blessing, which is behind all these operations. And, in brief, all we had was happy news.

The second issue examined concerned the hajj and problems created by the Saudi regime for Iranian pilgrims, and the way that regime approaches the issue to avoid world censure while at the same time, preventing our pilgrims from going. On the one hand, they say they will grant visas and, on the other, they forbid landlords to rent to Iranians and ask those landlords who have already contracted to rent properties to our pilgrims to cancel the contracts, even if it means using force. These are indications of dirty play and naturally our regime has the power and ability to expose everything and to show how a regime with associations and links to other powers can to such extent abuse an Islamic issue, an issue recognized worldwide and by the Muslim nations as having firmreligious roots.

Under these cirumstances, it is natural to recall a proposition that, basically, Mecca and Medina must not be governed by such a regime but must be governed under supervision of forces belonging to all Muslim nations.

The third issue discussed was whether Iran should participate in the forthcoming 1984 Olympics. You know that these Olympics will be held in Los Angeles, America, and in view of the U.S. stand against the oppressed nations and U.S. interference in situation in the Middle East — especially American support for the occupying regime of Quds (Jerusalem), formation of the rapid deployment force, crimes being committed by Americans in Latin America, especially those in El Salvador — the government decided, by a unanimous vote of the Cabinet, against Iran's participation at the forthcoming Olympics and instead to start exposing what the United States is doing.

Of course, this does not mean that our sportsmen should not participate at other world games, just that we condemn the Los Angeles Olympics for its vast political dimensions, for reasons already mentioned. Of course, the crimes which have been and continue to be committed by America in our country had a great role in that decision.

In addition to these topics, we decided on a series of bills, government legislation, and other issues, the details of which we will tell you in the future. [end recording]

Commenting on the aims of the Islamic Republic of Iran at this stage of the war, the prime minister said: Aims behind this operation, although a step to recapture parts of our Islamic homeland, were also, in view of the Saddam regime's propaganda on its might, a new blow to its political and military prestige, especially now that the Iraq regime's prestige is open to a big question worldwide. The regimes which at the moment are supporting Saddam's regime are trying to boost that lost prestige. Thus development plans on which the Saddam regime's survival depends, as well as huge loans and the like, can be advanced in Iraq, enabling Iraq to receive credits from big and multinational companies to finance the war and continue with its day-to-day living and to avoid unrest.

Naturally, our offensives damage that prestige and result in heavy pressure on Saddam's regime at the international level. They also result in heavy pressure on Iraq's Armed Forces not to listen to Saddam's slogans and to recognize that this war will continue until our nation's just rights are realized and that no international pressure can impose a peace upon us. In the meantime, our combatants, day after day, through greater bravery and know-how, better conduct, and more experience, are able to resist the most sophisticated weapons and an organized army, to deal their blows.

The prime minister added: This operation has special characteristics, which include chain and local operations as well as penetration of enemy territory, and we hope, God willing, to continue this tactic in the future as well.

Commenting on the unsettled issue of Iranian pilgrims to the annual hajj, the prime minister said: We will do all we can to enable our pilgrims to participate in the year's pilgrimage. Everyone will do his best, through the delegation which has gone to Saudi Arabia, efforts here, or steps currently taken by the hajjorganization, as well as tasks entrusted by the airline of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We have not stopped the arrangements. Still, as our nation is witnessing, we are confronting sophisticated political issues and obstructions and problems created by the Saudi regime.

Of course, we will try every day and every week to inform our public of the course of events and naturally our nation with its political awareness and growth and Islamic knowledge can find a solution for approaching these issues.

Prime Minister Discusses Foreign Ministry's Role

LD252105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati and the students of the Institute of Higher Education of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs met with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

In this meeting, referring to the development and history of various organizations in different societies, especially in the Third World, and the relationship between these organizations and the masses, the prime minister said: In the Islamic Republic, we see that even before the victory of the revolution the imam of the nation ordered preparations to be made for the drafting of a constitution. These prerevolutionary characteristics cannot be seen in the leaders of other revolutions. The leaders of other countries normally think of such things many years later; and even then, they regard their constitution as a rope that might bind their hands and feet. As a result, they base the fate of a nation upon the fate of their mortal being; so much so that, for instance, when 'Abd an-Nasir died the foreign and domestic policies of the country changed 180 degrees, and the situation there declined to such a point that it might only be compared with the government of the shah.

The prime minister then referred to the duties of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and said: Before the revolution, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was in the service of 1,000 families. After the revolution, an organization that had been a good servant to the regime occupying Jerusalem and to America could not properly serve the revolution. After the revolution, the plan for returning the F-14 fighter planes to America and the meeting with Brzezinski were hatched and implemented. If we see that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs can no longer follow that path, we should admit that a transformation has taken place in that ministry. You brothers should take that ministry out of a state of emergency and institutionalize it.[sentence as heard]

Today in the field of foreign policy we need individuals such as Allameh (Amini). Why shouldn't the brothers have the daring to think that from among this group five or six people might achieve such a position that they may be able to propose plans for world policies.

Reports on Montazeri Meetings, Statements

Meeting With Tribal, Ministerial Heads

LD271551 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that members of the tribal headquarters of Iran, composed of under secretaries of that ministry [as heard], and under secretaries of the Ministries of the Interior, Agriculture, Health, Education and Training, and Islamic Guidance, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the Crusade for Reconstruction yesterday met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom. They discussed with him plans for and difficulties facing the tribal headquarters.

In a speech about the role of the tribes in the country's economy and production and while referring to the blows which had been delivered at this great national stratum which forced them to reside in towns and villages, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: Now that the Islamic Revolution has beocme victorious, it is expected that the government will pay full attention to this important issue in its programs. He also dwelt on educational issues and the need to uplift the mental maturity of tribal people and to set up mobile cooperatives for them.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then referred to the custom of the rule of tribal leaders and their monopolization of natural pastures, their influence in obtaining titles of ownership of natural pastures and then receiving money by leasing them to the oppressed people under the former regime. He said: Such title deeds obtained under such conditions have no validity in religious law. Also, leases according to which tribal leaders or other wealthy individuals leased pastures to tribesmen for sheep grazing have no validity according to religious law; public pastures which do not belong to any particular village belong to the Islamic Government and it is the duty of the government to protect them against natural and other losses, and to put them at the disposal of the tribesmen and other deprived people.

For the sake of greater harmony and the elimination of the difficulties which the tribal headquarters is facing, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri decreed that Hojjat Ol-Eslam Fazel-Harandi, as the representative of the headquarters in charge of allocating land to farmers and tribesmen, should regularly take part in the meetings of the tribal headquarters so as to ensure that the activities of the tribal headquarters conform to shari'a religious law, supervise its religious propaganda needs, and have full cooperation with it.

Meetings With Officials

LD292343 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 29 Jul 83

[Text] Qom, July 29, IRNA — Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani, member of the Council of Guardians, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi, Iran's ambassador to Syria, Hojjat ol-Eslam [name indistinct], Ayatollah Montazeri's representative in Tabriz University separately conferred with Ayatollah Montazeri here Thursday.

Also meeting with the ayatollah were Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmadi, member of the cultural revolution headquarters; Hojjat ol-Eslam Abtahi, head of Fars Province's Voice and Vision (radio and tv) and Friday prayers leader of Gach Saran, in Kohkiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad Province as well as Minister of Health Dr Hadi Manafi, and head of Red Crescent Society Dr Vahid Dastjerdi.

Praising their services, Ayatollah Montazeri wished them further success in carrying out their duties. He also delivered detailed speeches on providing health for all, attention to prisoners' situation, and the necessity of resistance against the occupation of Lebanon by the usurper Zionist regime.

Warning to Guards on Conceit

LD301653 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jul 83

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, clergymen responsible for religious-political education in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps throughout the country met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday. Ayatollah Montazeri extolled the selfless and self-sacrificing acts of the Armed Forces, the Corps, and other combatants in the fronts and referred to the negative effects and results of conceit, saying that Satan had fallen from moral grace because of his conceit and egoism.

He said: Today the danger of conceit and consequent downfall, as manifested by egoism and egocentricity, threatens both the clery and our Armed Forces and Corps. May the day never arrive when the committed clergy who are engaged in selfless service in various organs and the few guards who are with them — few, because of the special circumstances which have arisen — are filled with conceit and imagine themselves standing apart from society. God forbid! If these special circumstances, which we hope will soon change, should drag us toward an artistrocratic life of luxury and excessive ceremony let us realize that they would precede our downfall.

We should preserve our usual simple life of templars and as far as possible we should not fall prey to circumstances. If, for instance, the Corps deemed certain conditions as necessary to discharge the responsibility of guarding the authorities, first of all we should confine ourselves to the limit set by the necessity and, secondly, we should not be above ourselves and lose our sense of balance so that we confuse the issue at hand.

If we enjoy respect and prestige in society, it is not because we are special. All the praise and respect are for Islam and the revolution and in line with Islam. If I, the templar, should image that people came here or expressed pleasant sentiments because of me then that state of affairs would be the beginning of my misfortune and downfall. If the people demonstrate humility, respect, and praise, it is because of the people's love and affection for God, Islam, and the revolution.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri added: The same goes for the Armed Forces and the Corps. Victories should not bring them conceit and make them overlook possible lessons, for egocentricity, conceit, and delusions of grandeur — particularly in the Corps — would be tantamount to tragedy. If the Guards Corps really desires Islam and the revolution it should endow itself with Islamic and divine morals. While resolute and decisive, the Corps should practice compassion and mercy: While fortified with good morals and an Islamic outlook, the Corps should call on others to rally to the revolution.

And just because of a single error or mistake we should not simply isolate the good forces and thereby lose them. We have few good and competent forces. Were a person to commit an error or mistake and then realize his mistake and confess, he should not be harmed and his good name and prestige should not be toyed with. None of us is free from mistakes and errors. We all make mistakes. But should a man make a mistake, yet remain obstinateand refuse to admit his error, then his account would be a separate one.

Conveying greetings to the intrepid combatants in the fronts, he emphasized: Let the brothers pay attention to the fact that a revolutionary organ of this importance, which has emerged from the very core of the revolution and which has so far carried out a great many acts of self-sacrifice and services, arouses great expectations in the people. Therefore, you should endeavour to maintain the Corps from every standpoint in line with Islam and the revolution and should not allow suspect habits and attributes, egocentricity and desire for rank, power, and worldly dazzle to divert the Corps from its original line.

May Almighty God grant you all ever greater success in the service of Islam and the revolution and protect the leader of the revolution for us and all Mislims!

According to this report, Ayatollah Taheri, the imam's representative and Friday imam of Esfahan; the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; the governor-general of Esfahan Province; and Mr Dorri-Najafabadi, deputy to the Islamic Consultative Assembly met separately with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday and discussed with him tasks connected with their sphere of activities.

AFP: 'Orly Group' Attempts To Kidnap Italian Envoy

NC011224 Paris AFP in English 1156 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 1 (AFP) — Armenian nationalists calling themselves the "Orly Group", who claimed responsibility for a "failed" kidnap attempt here yesterday, tried to kidnap an Italian diplomat in the belief he was French.

The Italian embassy here confirmed today that one of its diplomats, Renato Reggiani, had been approached by four men as he got into his car outside his home. They said they were police officers and brandished pistols.

When he refused to get out of his car and go with him, they gave up and left. The incident took place at the time and in the area mentioned by an anonymous caller with an Armenian accent, who rang the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE office here to claim responsibility for an attempted kidnap on a French diplomat.

Observers said it appeared they mistook the man's nationality.

The Orly Group claimed responsibility for four bombings and attempted bombings of French Embassy and airline offices here in the last week. Responsibility was also claimed by ASALA, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia.

Central Bank Governor Leaves for Syria 31 July
GF311050 Tehran International Television Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 31 Jul 83

[Text] Iranian Central Bank Governor Nurbaksh left for Syria today, leading an economic delegation. During its visit, the Iranian economic delegation will discuss economic and banking issues with Syrian officials.

14-Mordad Organization Announcement on Unity Day
GF011938 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 1 Aug 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] As we have informed you in earlier newscasts, a nationalist organization named 14-Mordad has declared next Friday as the day of unity of the Iranian nation on the anniversary of the constitutional revolution in Iran. The organization has called for all the country's city streets to reflect national unity on Friday. Friday is the anniversary of the constitutional revolt and all Iranians have been asked to come out of their houses.

The following points should be observed in this national test to make 5 August the start of the final move to overthrow the mullahs and to establish national rule in the country. Before I explain these points, I remind the esteemed compatriots that participation in this day of national promise is supported by us. Please convey this message to other compatriots who have been unable to hear us: The Free Voice of Iran also invites the people to go out on the streets on Friday in implementation of the decree of the Iranian nation, providing that the following points are observed:

1. The 5 August national promise day must in no way assume the form of organized demonstrations. To avoid this, we invite all the people of the homeland to come out of their houses on Friday, 5 August, at 1000 and walk around in their neighborhood or another area should they feel any danger without making a show of participating in this national promise day or making any contact with others for the duration of 1 hour.

2. During this 1-hour period strongly refrain from any action which may lead to the irritation or suspicion of the agents of the antinationalist regime of the mullahs.

3. Avoid chanting any slogans during this national show.

4. Those who have vehicles are advised to drive them instead of walking in the streets.

5. It is strongly advised not to switch your vehicle headlights on.

In its second statement, the 14-Mordad movement stresses: To show our hatred for the government of a handful of turbaned reactionaries, we will turn the national promise day of 5 August into the promise of final victory just as our forefathers rubbed the face of dictatorship in dirt 77 years ago.

Compatriots, the Free Voice of Iran announces its support for Friday's national program and again asks you to pay heed to the above points for your own safety and for the sake of success of this national test.